

1.95  
734

THIS CAN'T BE MY OFFICE

ACT ONE

CHARACTERS

FSA SUPERVISOR..... Mr. Brown  
ASSOCIATE SUPERVISOR..... Miss Mason  
OFFICE SECRETARY..... Betty Blake  
COMMITTEEMAN..... Tom Johnson  
(telephone voice)  
NEWSPAPER EDITOR..... Mr. Daily  
(telephone voice)  
RADIO STATION OPERATOR..... Mr. Janvers  
(telephone voice)  
MR. BORROWER..... Silas Jones  
MRS. BORROWER..... Mary Jones  
JUNIOR BORROWER..... Billy Jones  
COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN  
LION'S CLUB..... Mr. Sanders

SCENE: AN FSA OFFICE. TWO TABLES OR DESKS IN CENTER OF STAGE FOR SUPERVISOR AND ASSOCIATE. DESK OR TABLE AT LEFT WITH TYPEWRITER ON IT FOR SECRETARY. FILE BEHIND HER. HAT RACK NEAR DOOR AT RIGHT. THREE CHAIRS NEAR DOOR AT LEFT—SECRETARY IS BUSY TYPING AT HER DESK WHEN CURTAIN RISES.....

(SOUND OF TYPING) (STOPS, BETTY FUMBLES IN DESK DRAWER)

Now where's that dictionary? ...I never could spell mortgage....Let's see....~~m-o-r-g-a-g-e~~.... no, that doesn't look right....and the dictionary's never where it ought to be....I'll bet Mr. Brown borrowed it and forgot to give it back.... (TELEPHONE RINGS)....Oh, just when I get busy, that phone has to ring....Hello...oh, hello, Mr. Johnson....yes, Mr. Brown asked me to tell you that he had some awfully important business to talk over with you today, and wanted to know if you could get in town this afternoon....oh, so you've got troubles getting repair parts for your car?....but it is important, Mr. Johnson....no, I don't know what it is, some paper that has to be signed

LIBRARY  
L.B.



by someone on the committee, I guess....No....Mr. Brown isn't in yet so he can't tell you....he ran out of gas coupons, so he's walking this morning....the ration board promised him an extra allowance, but so far we haven't got it. All right, I'll tell him to call you....and if you can find some neighbor who's coming to town, you'll come in with them? That's fine, Goodbye.

(HANGS UP PHONE. STARTS TYPING) (BROWN ENTERS, LEFT)

BROWN

Good morning, Betty.

BETTY

Good morning, Mr. Brown....one of the committeemen just called....Mr. Johnson. ...he can't come, unless he gets a repair part for his car....he said call him....oh, yes, and how do you spell mortgage.

BROWN

(HANGING COAT AND HAT ON RACK) M-o-r- ah- why don't you look it up in the dictionary? Say, Johnson's got his nerve, thinking I can drive out there when I can't even get enough gas to drive my car for personal business....Anything else happen?.... Where's Miss Mason?....

BETTY

Oh, she called up a long time ago. Said she had a flat tire, and wanted you to come out and bring her some patching....and a jack....I expect you better take a garage man out, too, or you'll have to change the tire. She told me yesterday she's never changed a tire in her life and was just dreading the time when her thin tires went through. Guess that time came, this morning, so if you want her to make any calls today, you'll have to fix her tire or get it fixed.

BROWN

Darn....how's she expect me to get out there?....She's got the only gas coupons left in the office....Oh, well, maybe someone will go by and give her a lift. Any mail?

BETTY

I've already opened it and put in on your desk....right in front of you.

BROWN

Oh, yes....I'd put my brief case on it.... hmmmmmmmmmm... (OPENS MAIL AND STUDIES IT WHILE BETTY RESUMES TYPING) (SUDDENLY YELLS) Betty....did you see this so and so letter from the regional office?



- 3 -

BETTY

Yes....but I didn't take time to read it.

BROWN

Well, just listen.... (READS)...."And we feel that the public is greatly interested in what you do in the county offices, and that every possible means should be used to keep them informed of your activities. To further this end, the regional office is asking each county office to put forth a little extra effort during the following week to inform the public of your county activities. The Information Division has worked out a plan which we believe can be used effectively, and we are attaching a copy for your use. Please give us a report on the tenth covering your activities in this field" .... (LAYS PAPER DOWN AND TURNS TO BETTY)....I wish some of those regional office had to work in a county office for just a week....Imagine, asking for a little extra effort this week when they've already covered us up with 528's. Then they expect us to go out in the county to visit and help FSA families but don't arrange for the gas and tires we need for the work, and....but what's the use....they'll never understand until they come out here and try our job for a while; and they'll never do that....here, take a letter....

(BETTY OPENS DRAWER, TAKES OUT SHORTHAND NOTEBOOK AND PENCIL. CARRIES CHAIR OVER TO SIDE OF BROWN'S DESK AND SITS DOWN) Address it to the state director. Please consider this letter as my resignation, effective immediately....

BETTY

Oh, Mr. Brown....you can't do that. You're needed on this job. A lot of people would be hurt, including the soldier boys who depend upon our FSA families for increased production....

BROWN

(RUNNING HANDS THROUGH HAIR) I guess you're right....and I guess I wouldn't really quit, anyway....just forget about the letter....for the present, anyway....Let's see what sort of a stunt the regional Information Division has worked out this time.... (PICKS UP PAPER AGAIN AND TURNS TO SHEET. STUDIES IT BRIEFLY....LOOKS UP) Well, if this isn't a wild-haired scheme! They say that the best way to tell the public what we do is to show them by example. So now they suggest that I pick out one of our borrower families and interview them over the radio, or get the newspaper editor to go out and visit the family and have him write a story about them....isn't that something, Betty? ....All I've got to do is find one of our families who doesn't mind telling the world all about their private business, then either write a radio program on which they will appear or talk old man Daily into sending one of his



reporters out to the farm and getting the story.... And no extra gas to do the job, either. Well, the gas situation solves one problem, anyway. It will be Miss Mason who does the hard part, because she's the only one of us with gas. She'll have to dig up the family, and she'll have to escort old man Daily's reporter....if I can talk him into using the stuff....I sure don't envy Miss Mason her job....

MASON

(ENTERS, LEFT ALL BREATHLESS FROM HURRYING) Did I hear someone talking about me....gee, but I've had the terriblist time this morning....but I met the niciest man....and he fixed my tire, just as easy....and asked me if he could see me in town some evening....Isn't it thrilling, Betty?....He had the blackest eyes you can possibly imagine....and long slender fingers.... I was just thrilled to death, watching him and listening to all the nice things he said about me while he worked....I know he was just being flatter- ing....but it sounded so nice.....

BETTY

Who was it, Miss Mason? Someone I know?

MASON

That's funny....I forgot to ask him his name! ... Oh, well, I'll find out when he comes to see me tonight....he's coming at 7:30.

BROWN

If you're back by 7:30....Here, just read the latest stunt that they expect us to do....since you're the only one who has any gas, you have to do it.

MASON

Oh, but I can't possibly drive any more....not till I get another tire, anyway. I'm literally running on the rims, now; and I get scared every time I'm a block from a tire repair shop. Just look what happened this morning....and I just sat and sat and sat, waiting for you to come and help me, Mr. Brown....but I'm glad you didn't, or I might not have met Jimmy....gee, he was sweet....

BETTY

Jimmy?....But I thought you didn't know his name.

MASON

That's all I do know....But give me the paper so I can see what has to be done.



BROWN

(BROWN HANDS HER THE LETTER, THEN WHILE SHE READS IT HE DOES SOME TELEPHONING)

Betty, get me the number of station XABC....

BETTY

It's 2145 Ring 2

BROWN

Hello, operator....give me 2-1-4-5 ring 2....That's right....Hello, Mr. Janvers....This is Phil Brown at the Farm Security office....I'd like to put ~~on~~ a special radio broadcast over your station sometime this week....Think you could fix me up? Oh, about fifteen minutes time....It will be an interview of one of our FSA families....What's that?....Oh, I see....Well, I'll talk to them....and thanks a lot....Goodbye. (HANGS UP RECEIVER) Janvers says he hasn't any unscheduled time; that he'd like to help me if he could; but it's just too short notice....he told how his station had always helped government agencies, and how he hated to turn me down....but he did.

MASON

(LOOKING UP) But didn't I hear you say that you'll talk to them. What did you mean?

BROWN

Oh, he suggested that the Extension had a regular program with him next Wednesday, and that they might share their time. They have an hour; and most of it is just recorded music, so they could fit us in, he thought.

MASON

That sounds like an idea....I was talking to the home demonstration agent just the other day, and she was telling me how hard it was getting up the program every week, and how she wished someone would take part of the time off her hands.

BROWN

Well, I'll try; but I know how it will be....They'll say sure....Go right ahead. Then they'll start telling what we can and can't use. We can't give out anything educational, because that is their job and no other Department of Agriculture agency can infringe on their rights.... And we can't bring any one in to be interviewed because the family might say something Extension



wouldn't want said....And we can't talk about Farm Security because they wouldn't want to propagandize for any other agency on their time....I tell you, I've tried to do it before, and know it can't be done....About all they would let us do would be make an announcement that the Extension service had graciously turned over part of their time to Farm Security, and then play records or get one of their workers to give a special message to our borrowers telling of the wonderful services available through Extension.

MASON

(PUTTING ASIDE PAPER)....Well, then let's tackle it from the other side. You know Mr. Daily pretty well. Talk him into sending one of his reporters out to visit a family. You can do it.

BROWN

I can try....but I'm not very hopeful....Daily told me just the other day that he's going to have to cut his paper because of the shortage of newsprint....But, I'll try....What's the number over the Beacon, Betty.

BETTY

(LOOKING IN DIRECTORY).... 221

BROWN

2-2-1....That's easy (LIFTS RECEIVER)....hello, operator....give me 2-2-1.... thanks....Is Mr. Daily in this morning?....Oh, hello, Mr. Daily....This is Phil Brown, at the Farm Security office....Oh, I'm fine, thanks....Yes, I think I'll be able to make it to the Lion's club this evening....you say you won't....that's too bad....You'll miss a good time....I'll bet you do have problems, trying to get out a newspaper in war times....My job keeps me working nights most of the time, too....Oh, yes, I called to ask if you could do me a favor....I'd like to tell the people here in the county a little about the work we are doing in Farm Security....and I think I've got an idea that will interest you....Oh, just send one of your reporters out to see what actually goes on on one of our borrower's farms, then have him come back and write his own story of what he saw....Oh, that's about right, I guess....well, I think a lot of your readers would be interested in knowing what we do and how we do it....well, it's your paper, so you have to decide what you use; but I think you are missing a bet....if you change your mind, let me know.... (HANGS UP)....Daily won't do it, either. Says his desk is piled a foot high right now with government press releases that he's supposed to use, and they aren't any good except as waste-paper for the scrap drive....Said if he just had the paper which government agencies wasted in one day sending out news releases he could print his paper for a year on it....Well, I guess that's that. Let's just say we couldn't arrange it because the newspapers and radio stations wouldn't give us the space or time.



MASON

Oh, don't give up yet. Maybe things will change.

BROWN

Oh, I won't quit....but if a fellow couldn't grouse once in a while, life wouldn't be worth living, I guess....Suppose you try to figure out a family who would be a good example of what we have done here in the county and go see them. Tell them how they can help others receive the same benefits by telling their story, and I don't think they would object....too much.

MASON

All right, but what family do you suggest?

BROWN

Let's see....We helped the Wilkins quite a bit....they were on relief for years before we took over, and now they are operating a farm which is growing a lot of food for the war effort....and they've got a barn-full of equipment, too. Never had a bit before we helped them get started.

MASON

And Mrs. Wilkins has learned to can all the food needed by their family, too. She canned 500 quarts this past year....and she told me she only canned about 150 before coming on FSA.

BROWN

That ought to make a good angle....but the Wilkins have been a little slow with their repayments. They've had a lot of sickness, so I really think they've done better than average considering the circumstances; but maybe it wouldn't be a good case to publicize. Would require too many explanations.

MASON

What about the Silas Jones family?

BROWN

Say, I believe you've got something there. They've really climbed higher than the Wilkins because they're buying their farm, now.

MASON

And their repayment record is one of the best in the county. They've got several sons in the Army, too. Folks like to hear about how old folks and



young children are keeping the farm in operation while the sons fight to protect the country.

BROWN

And say, I heard that one of the Jones boys is getting his medical discharge soon, and will be back to help with this year's crops. That ought to be a good news angle.

MASON

All right, I'll go out and see the Jones family and find out if they'll help us out. And while I'm doing that, how about you finding how we're going to use the story if I get it. What about the other papers in the county? Think they might be interested? Or the daily paper over in Central City?

BROWN

I'll give it a think. Run on, now, and don't have too many flat tires on the trip. There might not be a Jimmy to help you, next time.

MASON

You shouldn't have mentioned my tires....I'd forgotten how bad they were until you started me thinking again. Now I'll spend the whole trip worrying.

(MASON STARTS TO LEAVE, RIGHT. AS SHE NEARS THE DOOR, PULLING ON HER COAT AND GLOVES, TELEPHONE RINGS, SECRETARY ANSWERS IT. MASON HESITATES, TO SEE IF IT IS FOR HER.)

BETTY

Hello....yes, this is the Farm Security Administration. Yes, we have a Miss Mason here....Just a moment and I'll call her....It's for you, Miss Mason....

MASON

(TAKING RECEIVER FROM BETTY) ....Hello....Yes, this is Miss Mason....Oh, hello, Jimmy....No, I hadn't forgotten you....how could I, when you did such a lovely job fixing my tire this morning....well, it was nice of you, and I don't know what I would have done if you hadn't stopped....sure, I remember promising to see you this evening....oh, that's too bad....tomorrow, then, for sure....and I wish I could help you with your old entertainment, but I don't know how....wait a minute, maybe I do, too....hold the line just a moment, will you? (SHE COVERS MOUTHPIECE WITH HER HAND AND TALKS TO BROWN) ....Maybe this is our chance, Mr. Brown. This is Jimmy, the fellow who helped me this morning....And I've just discovered that he's Jimmy Sanders, who has charge of the entertainment committee at the Lion's Club. They're giving some sort of a party tonight....



BROWN

I know, I was supposed to go.

MASON

Anyway, the guest speaker just wired that he can't be there, and now Jimmy has to arrange a new program on short notice....And I was wondering....what about you doing the job....It will be a chance to do what the regional office wants, maybe not in a newspaper or radio, but at least before a group of important town people. And maybe we could have the Jones family in as part of the program.

BROWN

Say, I believe you've got something there. Ask Jim Sanders what he thinks of the idea.

MASON

(TALKS INTO RECEIVER) Jimmy?....How's this for an idea....You know Phil Brown--he's our county supervisor, you know--how about him as your speaker this evening? You know, tell folks about the Farm Security and what it is supposed to do. Oh, he wouldn't make a dry old speech out of it--we could bring in one of our families and have a regular interview, with the family. Show what FSA does by the way it worked in their case....Oh, don't worry, I think it would be interesting enough to please your members....and I could see you this evening, Jimmy, because I'd have to be there to help Mr. Brown interview the family....all right, Jimmy....we won't fail you....and I'll see you tonight....and tomorrow night, too, if you want....Goodbye (HANGS UP RECEIVER) There, now all we've got to do is get the Jones family lined up to do their part, and plan just what we want to say....What about you taking my car and driving out to the Joneses and working out that part....Then if any more tires go bad, you can be the one to fix them.

BROWN

We'll both go. Come on....Hold down the office while we're gone, Betty.  
(MASON AND BROWN LEAVE, RIGHT, CURTAIN DROPS WITH BETTY TYPING AT DESK.)



ACT TWO

(SCENE: THE LION'S CLUB HALL. A SPEAKER'S STAND IS IN THE LEFT FRONT. WHEN THE CURTAIN RISES, SANDERS IS AT THE SPEAKER'S STAND HIS HAND RAISED FOR SILENCE.

SANDERS

As chairman of your entertainment committee, I've a little surprise ready for tonight. Maybe most of you heard that our expected guest speaker....Doctor Lambert, the world famous psychiatrist....missed his train connections at Pittsburgh and was unable to make it here in time for tonight's program. That would stump most entertainment committee chairmen, I expect....but not little Jimmy Sanders....I got to thinking, and I said to myself, Jimmy, what is it folks know the least about and should know the most. And quick as a flash I answered my own question. Things that happen right in their own home town, I said. So I looked around to see what local talent we possessed that might interest you. And I think I came up with a prize winner....

How many of you have heard of the Farm Security Administration? You don't need to answer, I know. Not very many. Because it goes about its task of doing good with little farmers without doing a lot of horn blowing. Fact is, about the only time I ever heard of it before today was when somebody who doesn't like what it does, makes charges against it....So tonight, I asked Phil Brown, local supervisor of the Farm Security and a member of our own club, to tell us about himself and about the FSA....Come on up, Phil.

BROWN

(COMING UP FROM FRONT WHERE HE HAS BEEN SITTING IN AUDIENCE) Thanks, Jimmy.... and I hope our guests this evening aren't going to be disappointed by your last minute choice of entertainment. (BROWN AND SANDERS SHAKE HANDS, THEN SANDERS TAKES A CHAIR IN AUDIENCE. BROWN FACES AUDIENCE AND CONTINUES) Now folks, I didn't come up here to make a speech, so you can rest easy. I do want to say a few things about my organization, the Farm Security Administration, but I'll promise you they won't take more than a minute or two. Then I want to do something different. We've asked a couple of our friends.... a family who has been able to get a start through the help given them by FSA.... to come up here, and I'm going to ask them some questions. I think their answers will tell you more than I could do in any speech about our work, and a lot more interestingly....First, however,....here's just a little dope about what FSA is....We are a government agency which was organized about eight years ago to give financial help and instruction in good farming methods and farm and home management to low-income farmers. You know that there are a lot of farm families who don't have a good living and can't get ahead just because they do not have the necessary resources or know how to use them to advantage. If one of these farmers can't get a loan at the bank here in town or from any



other private or government lending agency....then we are ready to give him a chance provided he has a good farm background and now also really wants to help grow war-needed foods....Right now we have 187 such families in the county, and also 16 others we're helping purchase farms....These folks are repaying their loans and are also growing more essential food crops than ever before in their life. But I'm going to let my guests tell you about that. Folks, I want you to meet the Jones family....or what is left of it now that part of their family is fighting overseas just as hard as their parents are fighting here on the home food front....

(MR., MRS., AND JUNIOR JONES COME ON STAGE FROM LEFT, REAR, PILOTED BY MISS MASON)

Here they are, folks....Silas Jones, from over by Trenton...his wife, Mary, ....and their son, Billy....But where's the rest of your family, Si.... You had a girl the last time I was out on your farm.

SI

Oh, she ups and joins the WAVES. Just last week, and she sure left her maw with a passel of housework to do.

MRS. J.

Now, Si....I don't mind....She read that letter from her brother Tom, and he said about how he wanted to get into the fight instead of sitting around Norfolk doing a desk job....So Nancy says she things she could do a bigger job over there as a WAVE, relieving a man for sea duty, than here on our farm.

SI

Don't know about that, Ma....We need her here at home, too; and we've got a powerful important job, feeding all those soldiers and sailors

BROWN

That's right, Si....and you small farmers are sure making a big success of your job. But maybe Mrs. Jones is the one who should say whether Nancy will be of more service on the farm or at Norfolk. What about it, Mrs. Jones. Will you be able to keep up with all your household duties and still help just as much with food production, with Nancy gone?

MRS. J.

Course we will. We'll just have to buckle down and each of us that's left will do a little more, just like we've been doing since Tom and Will and Jimmy joined up. And maybe Jimmy will be back to help soon. He's to get his medical discharge soon....and there will be lots of jobs he can do, even if his left arm is gone.



BROWN

But I'll bet this past year's been a lot more work for all of you, with your sons gone. How do you manage it?

BILLY

They've got me to help now, Mr. Brown. Dad had me out in the field running the tractor this spring; and I help with the milking and feed the stock, too.

MRS. J

Billy helps with the garden, too, and some of the jobs around the house, especially when it is time to do our canning.

BROWN

Good for you, Billy, I'll bet you are a lot of help. How old are you?

BILLY

I'm coming twelve....and I'm going to join the Navy just as soon as I'm big enough. If we're still at war.

BROWN

Well, if everyone did as much to help win the war as the Jones family, it's a sure thing that it won't last until you're old enough, Billy. Si, suppose you tell the folks just how much food you raised on your farm this year.

SI

Well, it was right smart, I guess. I had ten brood sows, you remember; and this year I followed your advice and put them out on clean pasture. Cleaned out those individual hog houses, too. Guess that's why I didn't lose a pig at farrowing time.

BROWN

And did you have a lot of pigs?

SI

Right smart lot, Mr. Brown....Guess they averaged better than eight to a litter. Finished them off in six months at 250, too....



BROWN

Hmmmmmm....that means you had about ten litters of a ton apiece, doesn't it?

SI

Yep....got it right down in our record book....22,000 pounds of pork this year.

BILLY

And don't forget all those cows I helped milk, Paw.

SI

That's right, son. Guess you did milk a lot this year. We kept seven milk cows, Mr. Brown, and they sure did start giving the milk after we began feeding them that balanced ration you suggested. Reckon they averaged almost five gallons a day....that's better than thirty gallons of milk each day to market besides what we used at home.

MRS. JONES:

And I had a nice flock of laying hens, too, Mr. Brown. I kept almost two hundred through the winter, and they averaged 150 eggs per day until late in the summer. We're still getting several dozen a day, now that it's moulting time....and I've a nice bunch of pullets coming on to replace any hen that thinks she's earned the right to board free this coming winter.

BROWN

Well, it sure sounds as if you folks raised a lot of such essential war foods as PORK, MILK AND EGGS.

SI

That isn't all, either. We had some beeves to go to market; and I raised all the feed I needed and had some left over to sell. Raised all our own family food, too.

MRS. JONES

Now, pa, we didn't. We had to buy sugar, and coffee, and some of our flour though we used meal most of the time.

SI

Aw, Maw, I meant stuff that farm folks hereabout could raise, of course. Now don't start acting as if you didn't do a big job, doing all that canning, and helping out in the fields, too, right along with all the work you have to do to keep us all fed properly and living decently.



BROWN

I was just going to ask about that, Mrs. Brown. Just how much did you can?

MRS. JONES

Well, not as much as some years, 'cause three of the boys aren't here to help eat it. But I put up 782 quarts of fruits, vegetables, and meats.

BROWN

Well, that's really fine. With just three of you at home, that means over two hundred quarts apiece, so I can see why Si said you raised most of your own food. (TURNS TOWARD AUDIENCE) Folks, I'd like to tell you something about the Jones family that they might not want to tell themselves. You see, the production you've just heard them mention is quite a bit; but maybe to the operator of a really large farm it would seem rather unimportant. What I'd like to have you take home from this meeting with you isn't so much the idea of the amount of food families like the Jones are producing as it is the idea of how much MORE they are producing than in the past.... You see, the country needs a lot of food in war time, and with so many men in the service and so many in war plants, your big farms can't produce very much more than they were already producing. They had all the equipment and training they needed for efficient operations, so they were already at peak production when the Japs struck at Pearl Harbor....The little farmers like Jones weren't--they didn't have the tools, or supplies they needed, didn't have enough land, or the right kind. A lot of times they didn't know how. The FSA has tried to help solve those problems; and we've done it with a lot of our families. The best proof is the fact that our families DID make tremendous increases, far greater than the average of bigger farmers....So now I'm going to ask the Jones family to talk about the side of their life before they came on FSA. It isn't as pretty a picture as it is now; but it will help you see just how much progress they have actually made in their three years under FSA. Do you mind talking about the depression days, Si?

SI

Don't mind talking, as long as I don't have to go back to them. Sure had it tough, Mr. Brown. We were operating as tenants on a fifty-acre patch which wouldn't even grow enough food for our own family.

BROWN

And now you have a farm all your own?

SI

Well, it's a fact....and they sure helped me pick a good farm....It won't take no forty years to pay for it, the way crops and livestock are doing on that farm.



BROWN

Believe you're right--in the two years you have been on that farm you've already repaid almost half the purchase price....And all from farm produce, I understand.

SI

Yep...couldn't have done it on that old farm, though.

BROWN

So the folks in our audience can see the improvement you've made, tell us what you had before you came to FSA.

SI

Well, I've got ten brood sows now....and I only had one back in those days. Usually just had one litter of pigs a year, and saved about three or four of them. That gave us our family meat; but that is about all. And we just had one cow that we kept for milk for the kids, but she wasn't very good and we didn't have any milk or butter at all for about three or four months of every year.

BROWN

Then gosh, man, what did you raise to sell, so you could have some cash income.

SI

Most of the time we didn't have anything to sell. We just lived off what we could raise; and we kept the kids in hand-me-downs or stuff we got from relief. Raised a little corn, some years; but never could count on it because our farm was so sandy that a little dry spell would burn up the crop.

BROWN

Well, I think you folks have done a mighty fine job, climbing so high in just three years....

MRS. JONES

Oh, we haven't done bad, but we couldn't have done it if you folks in FSA hadn't helped us. You gave us the start we needed, and whenever we came up against a problem that stumped us, you was ready to give us another helping hand. You and Miss Mason sure helped us get going....I wish she was still here so I could thank her for all the things she's showed me



about how to do a better job of canning food and feeding my family, and doing housework easier ways and making our home convenient and attractive too.

SI

Yes, we could mention a lot of things you and Miss Mason have helped us with--like helping us look ahead, and keep our records straight, doing better with our garden and our poultry, too.

BROWN

She's here, Mrs. Jones; but she's sitting down front somewhere. There she is, beside Mr. Sanders....and I'm sure she thanks you, just as I do, and would say that working with you and others like you has been a real pleasure and satisfaction. Well, that's about all the questions I've got to ask; but if you folks will just wait around awhile, I think there are going to be some refreshments, and I'll see that you get your share....

DAILY

(FROM AUDIENCE) Say, Brown, don't go away without seeing me; or let the Jones get away, either. Sounds to me as if you've got the material for a good feature story right there; and I want to arrange for one of my reporters to get it for the Beacon.

BROWN

Why sure, Mr. Daily. I didn't know you were going to be here, tonight, or I'd have introduced you to the Jones family before we started. You said you were going to be busy tonight when I talked to you over the phone about having your paper use their story.

DAILY

Well, Brown, women aren't the only ones who can change their mind, especially when they are convinced that by changing it they will get something worth while

JANVERS

(FROM AUDIENCE) And I'll eat crow, too, Brown. I suppose this is the family you wanted to have on the radio when you called me this morning. It sure sounds as if you've got something that a lot of our people ought to hear. Wish you'd come over to the studio tomorrow and I'll arrange a good spot for you. Think I've got just the place.

END